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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/805,015	HOWELL, JAY E.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas M. Sember	2875	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**  
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the status letter filed on 11/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>06/28/04</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

Thomas M Sember  
 Primary Examiner  
 Art Unit: 2875

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record alone or in combination fails to teach or fairly suggest applicant's claimed invention for the following examiner's reason's for allowance:

The prior art of record most similar to applicant's invention is the prior art reference of Ziff et al. Ziff et al discloses a plurality of electric stringers, each stringer having an elongated cord and opposed ends. Inherently, the male plug has positive, common and ground prongs, and said female outlet has cooperating positive, common and ground ports. The cord electrically connects each of said positive, common and ground plugs to its respective positive, common and ground port. The device includes a plurality of electric receptacles. Each receptacle has a plurality of female outlets.

However, Ziff et al fails to disclose "Each stringer has a male plug at one of said ends and a female outlet at said other end"....and each receptacle having **a male plug, two female outlets and a socket for receiving on the light bulbs..** said male plug of each receptacle is electrically plugged into said female outlet of a corresponding stringer, each of said corresponding stringers and receptacles forming a plurality of sections of said assembly; and, wherein said male plug of a first section is electrically connected to the outlet of the building and the male plug of each of said subsequent sections is electrically connected to one of said female outlets of one of said plurality of sections in an electrically linked manner." as claimed in applicant's claim 1. Claims 2-12 depend on claim 1.

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Likewise, Ziff et al fails to disclose "each receptacle having a male plug, two female outlets and a socket for receiving one of the light bulbs.... and several downstream sections, each downstream section having one adjacent upstream section, and electrically and securely connecting downstream and adjacent upstream 'sections together one at a time by plugging said male plug of said stringer of each of said downstream sections into one of said female outlets of said receptacle of its said adjacent upstream section; electrically powering said temporary lighting assembly to light the interior of the building during construction, permanent components being secured around and intertwined with the temporary lighting system during construction; and, removing one section of said temporary lighting assembly at a time, cutting any discrete stringer that is blocked by or intertwined with the permanent components of the building, and saving said receptacles and uncut stringers for reuse." as claimed in applicant's independent claim 13. Dependent claims 14-20 depend on independent claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Tennis et al, Dods, Nilssen and Newbold disclose lighting assemblies similar to applicant's invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M. Sember whose telephone number is 571-272-2381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 A.M- 5.30 p.m. first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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Primary Examiner  
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